Sympoetica

Firm History and Principal Profiles

Sympoetica was established in 1986 as Strategic Land Planning, Inc. In 2001, in celebration of the company's 15th anniversary and the beginning of 21st Century, they changed their name to Sympoetica, a name that reflects their collaborative approach to community planning. Barry Carpenter, ASLA, and Phoebe Kilby, AICP, founders and principals, began the practice in Alexandria, Virginia, with most of their work centered in Northern Virginia. In 1994, they moved to Woodstock, Virginia, where they have taken advantage of electronic communications systems to expand their practice to serve clients throughout the United States and abroad.

Phoebe Kilby, AICP, President of Sympoetica, has been a land use and environmental planner for over twenty-five years. Working both as a consultant and a local government planner, she has prepared comprehensive plans, neighborhood and downtown plans, urban design studies and guidelines, zoning ordinance amendments, community recreation plans, park master plans and environmental documents. A recent area of expanded practice is preservation planning, including the development of Civil War battlefield preservation plans. Comfortable working with local, state and federal governments, she has led multi-disciplinary teams on complex multiyear projects as well as simple, goal-directed quick turnaround tasks. Ms. Kilby is an expert in public participation offering the latest consensus-building and problem-solving techniques. Citizens feel comfortable with her, often coming up after meetings to complement her inclusive approach and sympathetic style. Her professional competence has been confirmed by the receipt of numerous awards from the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association. She holds Bachelor of Science and Master of Environmental Management degrees from Duke University.

Barry Carpenter, ASLA, Vice President of Sympoetica, is an award-winning planner and designer with over thirty years of experience in community and urban design, land development planning, and park and recreation planning and design. He has exceptional expertise in designing private and public development projects within today's complex public approval arena, including mixed-use projects, revitalization efforts and community master plans for governments and developers. He is a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects and the Urban Land Institute, and has participated in numerous ULI Advisory Panels on mixed-use projects nationally; he is on the Smart Growth Alliance project recognition jury in the Washington, DC region. Mr. Carpenter's innovative work on Transit-Oriented Development (TODs) has been published nationally in Urban Land and Landscape Architecture magazines. He was principal designer for the traditional neighborhood development (TND) of Wyndhurst, under construction in Lynchburg, Virginia. Mr. Carpenter is a certified landscape architect in the Commonwealth of Virginia and a registered landscape architect in North Carolina and West Virginia. He holds a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree from North Carolina State University.